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**PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT  
ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)**

Docket Number (Optional)

First named inventor: *Eldon William Bishop*

Application No.: *10/720,637*

Art Unit: *3671*

Filed:

Examiner:

Title: *Mowing Device*

Attention: Office of Petitions  
**Mail Stop Petition**  
Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
FAX (571) 273-8300

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the expiration date of the period set for reply in the office notice or action plus an extensions of time actually obtained.

**APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION**

NOTE: A grantable petition requires the following items:

- (1) Petition fee;
- (2) Reply and/or issue fee;
- (3) Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee - required for all utility and plant applications filed before June 8, 1995; and for all design applications; and
- (4) Statement that the entire delay was unintentional.

**1. Petition fee**

☒ Small entity-fee \$ 750.00 (37 CFR 1.17(m)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

☐ Other than small entity - fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (37 CFR 1.17(m))

**2. Reply and/or fee**

A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in the form of specification (identify type of reply):

- ☐ has been filed previously on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ is enclosed herewith.

B. The issue fee and publication fee (if applicable) of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☐ has been paid previously on \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ is enclosed herewith.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.137(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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01/13/2006 HGUTER01 00000011 10720637

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01 FC:2453

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## 3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee

☒ Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.☐ A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 CFR 1.20(d)) of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for a small entity or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see PTO/SB/63).

4. STATEMENT: The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. [NOTE: The United States Patent and Trademark Office may require additional information if there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional (MPEP 711.03(c), subsections (III)(C) and (D)).]

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Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

Eldon W. Bishop  
Signature

12-28-05  
Date

Eldon William Bishop  
Typed or printed name

Registration Number, if applicable

9033 Shelbyville Pike  
Address

(615) 793-6052  
Telephone Number

Bell Buckle, TN 37020  
Address

Enclosures: ☒ Fee Payment

☒ Reply

☐ Terminal Disclaimer Form

☐ Additional sheets containing statements establishing unintentional delay

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]**

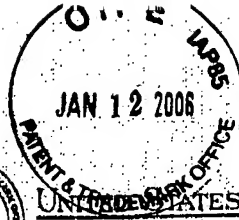
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

☒ Deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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01-09-06  
Date

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APPL. NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/720,637	11/04/2004	3671	385		3	1	1

CONFIRMATION NO. 4680

BISHOPS INTERPRIZES INC.  
 ELDON WILLIAM BISHOP  
 9033 SHELBYVILLE HIGHWAY  
 BELL BUCKLE, TN 37020

## FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000014382068\*

Date Mailed: 11/17/2004

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

Eldon William Bishop, Murfreesboro, TN:

Power of Attorney: None

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 09/09/2004

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/720,637**

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Corrected Papers

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\*

Title

Mowing device

Preliminary Class

056

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184  
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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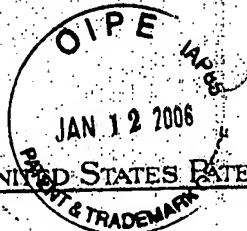
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/720,637	11/04/2004	Eldon William Bishop	

BISHOPS INTERPRIZES INC.  
 ELDON WILLIAM BISHOP  
 9033 SHELBYVILLE HIGHWAY  
 BELL BUCKLE, TN 37020

CONFIRMATION NO. 4680

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000014382069\*

Date Mailed: 11/17/2004

## NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

*Filing Date Granted*

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The application is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- A substitute specification in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52, 1.121(b)(3), and 1.125, is required. The specification, claims, or abstract page(s) submitted is not acceptable and cannot be scanned or properly stored because:
  - The line spacing on the specification, claims, or abstract is not 1½ or double spaced (see 37 CFR 1.52(b)).

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts  
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PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
10/720,637	11/04/2004	Eldon William Bishop	

CONFIRMATION NO. 4680

BISHOPS INTERPRIZES INC.  
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 BELL BUCKLE, TN 37020

## WITHDRAWAL NOTICE



\*OC000000014380059\*


Date Mailed: 11/17/2004

## WITHDRAWAL OF PREVIOUSLY SENT NOTICE

The Notice mailed on 09/09/2004 was sent in error and is hereby withdrawn. A corrected Notice is enclosed. The time period for reply runs from the mail date of the corrected Notice. We apologize for any inconvenience this caused.

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PART I - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY



Title of Invention

# Mowing Device

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Not Applicable



STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

**Not Applicable**

REFERENCE TO SEQUENCE LISTING, A TABLE, OR A  
COMPUTER PROGRAM LISTING COMPACT DISC  
APPENDIX

Not Applicable

# BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

## **1. Field of Invention**

The invention relates to mowing machinery towed and used in conjunction with other machinery to cut and/or increase the cutting width of other mowing machinery.

## **2. Prior Art.**

Commercial and Industrial Maintenance organizations are constantly trying to increase the cutting capacity of their existing mowing machinery. Specifically in the commercial mower industry, users utilizing the "zero turn" mowers can double their mowing performance by attaching a side wing mower.

Using wing mowers that are currently on the market where the front wheels pivots and the rear wheels remain rigid does not work well because it leaves an uncut strip of grass in the turns. To have the front wheels rigid and the back wheels pivoting is not the total solution. The towing device must hook to the center of the pivot of the mower frame or it will list and will not tow correctly. So the hitch must be put in the center of the mower carriage frame and must be put back of center of the front of the mower or the front wheels will slide and not trail in proper relation to the "zero turn" machine.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides for a fully self-contained mower machine that has its own reciprocating air-cooled engine. Attached to the engine is an electro-clutch for positive engagement of the three blades and a adjustable backside idler is used to keep the belt tight on the bearing housing pulleys. Incorporating a carrying frame for carrying the deck and motor allows the mower device to be extremely maneuverable. It can be towed up to 8 mph while mowing. The carrier frame has three height adjustments for setting the cutting height of the mowing deck.

Further included on said carrier frame are rigid front wheels, swivel mounted rear wheels and center mounted steering yokes connected mid-way back on the carrier frame to help create the zero turn. The steering yokes are also connected toward the front of the carrier frame and the front of the deck to the offset tow bar, which is paramount in making the zero turn. It is important to understand that if the steering yokes are not mounted to the center of the carrier frame not only will it not stay square when it is being towed but also it will not turn correctly. It is likely to slide instead of making the turn and the steering becomes sluggish at best.

It is to be understood that this mowing machine is intended to be used while being towed by another mowing machine with its own cutting deck.

## DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 on page 1 is a Front Elevation View of the carrier frame, deck with anti-scalp rollers and view of the three height adjusters on the carrier frame; it also shows the motor mount bracket between the top of the deck and the bottom of the carrier frame.

Fig. 2 on page 2 is a Top Plane View of the cutting deck, the carrier frame, the steering yokes mounted to the center of the carrier frame and attached to the offset tow bar.

Fig. 3 on page 3 is a Right Side Elevation View and shows the carrier frame, rear height adjuster, rigid front wheels, to the left and swivel mounted rear wheels to the right.

Fig. 4 is an Isometric View that shows the completed assembly.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

A mowing device is shown in Fig. 2 which embodies several of the features of the invention. The mowing device in Fig. 2 includes a carrier frame (1) used as the means to support and transport the mowing deck (2) which houses all of the bearing housing assemblies and pulleys used to propel the blades which do the actual cutting. A mowing deck(2) is attached to the carrier frame (1) by use of two drag bar linkages (3) on either side of the carrier frame (1) and to brackets (4) welded directly on the top and to the front of the cutting deck (2). Also attached to the two front brackets (4) are two height adjustment cranks (5) used to raise, lower and level the front of the mowing deck (2). To the rear of the mowing deck (2) illustrated in Fig. 3 is the rear height adjustment bracket (6) used to raise and lower the back of the deck by means of the rear height adjustment crank (7) which is attached to the rear tube brace (8) illustrated in Fig. 2. This rear tube brace (8) is used to reinforce the carrier frame (1) visible in Fig. 2. Also attached are the rear mounted swivel wheels (9) shown in Fig. 3 mounted on rear of the left and right extensions of carrier frame (1) and are used to support the rear of the mower.

Also mounted to the left and right carrier frame (1) shown in Fig. 2 and to the front of the left and right beams (10) are the rigid front wheels (11) which support the front of the mower deck (2). The rigid front wheels (11) are attached to the carrier frame (1) by an axle (12) that is mounted to the front support channel (13) Fig 1 that is welded to the left and right extensions of support beams (10) and are reinforced by gussets (14) welded to the front support

channel (13) and to the left and right support beams (10). As the rigid front wheels (10) do not swivel and the offset tow bar (15) maneuvers into a sharp turn by a tow vehicle (not shown) the rigid front wheels (11) become the fulcrum that starts the turn by the rear swivels wheels (9). It is possible that in extremely sharp turns the rigid front wheels (10) will counter rotate as the mower machine does a complete zero turn. It must be noted that the other main contributing factor for the machine to make a zero turn is that the steering yokes (16) Fig 2 are located back of center on the support beams (10) which helps prevent the front wheels from slipping and by location contributes in making the turn. It is important to understand that if the steering yokes are not mounted to the center of the carrier frame, not only will it not stay square when it is being towed but also it will not turn correctly. It is to be noted that by making the front wheels rigid (10) and the rear wheels (9) swivel in the rear of the device, that when towed on the right side of a zero turn machine the left front rigid wheel (10) will usually track just to the right of the zero turn machine's right rear wheel eliminating uncut strip of turf. The offset tow bar (15) is adjustable to accommodate different width size tow-machine decks.

## CLAIMS

### I claim:

1. A fully self-contained motorized mowing machine.
  - a. Attachment frame attaches above and to the center of the mower carrier frame and pivots vertically.
  - b. Either a main rigid tow bar that is bent in such a manner as to offset the mower to the side of the towing machine towing first said frame unit, or a straight tow bar that will allow the mower to be pulled directly behind the towing machine.
  - c. Stationary front wheels that when turned forces the said frame to be turned by the pivoting rear wheels.
  - d. The steering from the center of said first frame with rigid front wheels and the rear wheels swiveling assures that there will be no uncut strip of grass.



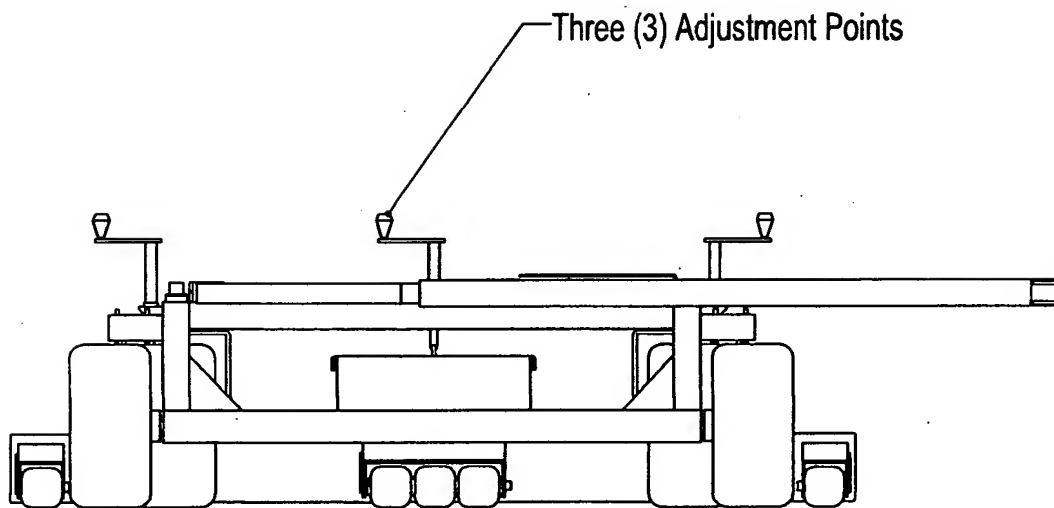
## ABSTRACT

This is a device that is a fully self-contained, motorized, mowing apparatus. The blades are engaged with an electrical/mechanical clutch. It is a tow behind self-powered model of mowing equipment. The blades can be engaged and disengaged from the operator's location on the tow unit via the electro-clutch. A tow hitch is attached above the deck to a carrier frame, back of center of the mower carrier frame. Front wheels are stationary and rear wheels pivot, allowing the mower to follow directly off to the side of the lead equipment. Towing more specifically by "zero turn" mowing units, this apparatus will mow without leaving an uncut strip of turf in the turns.



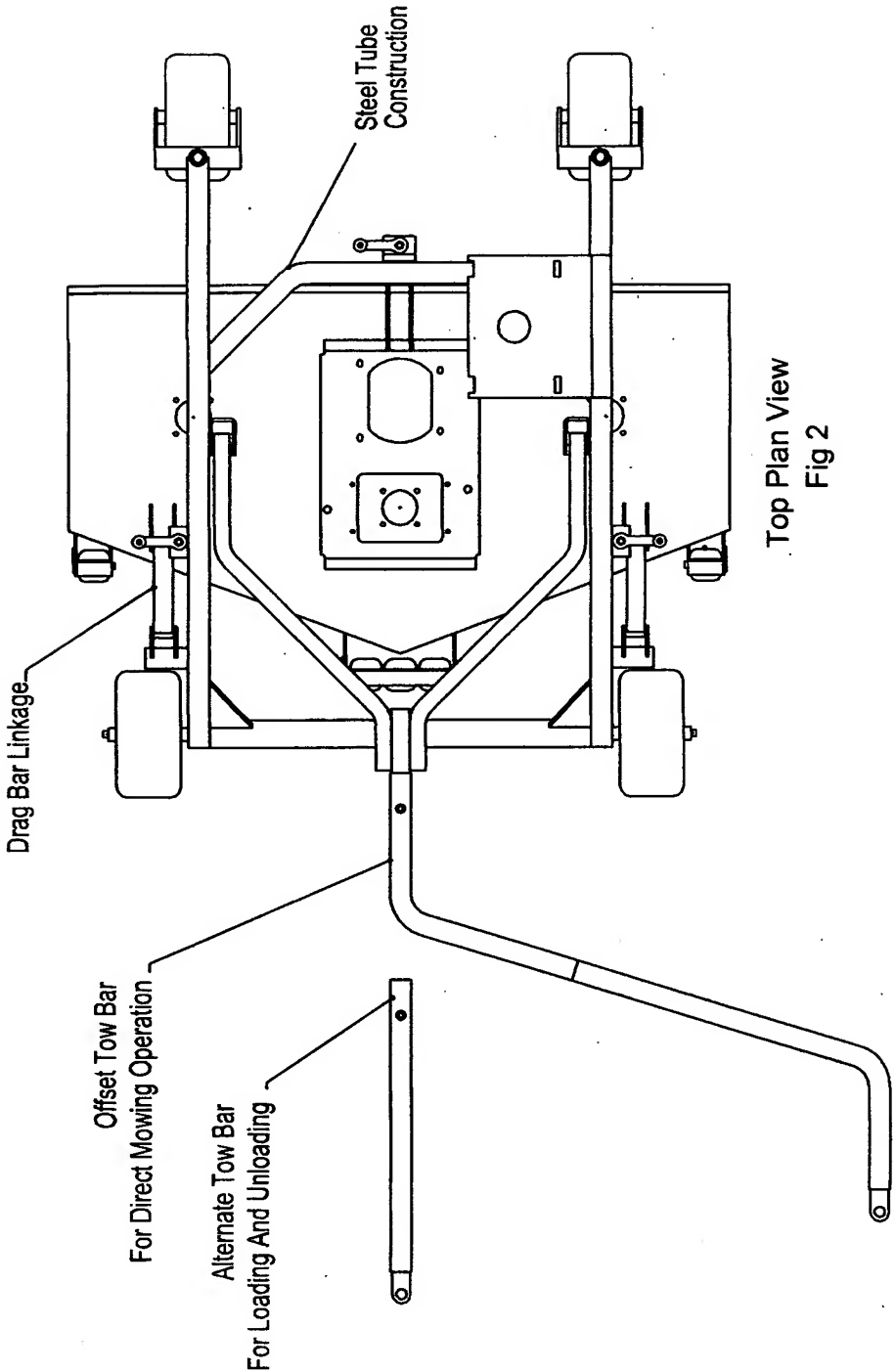
Mowing Device - Eldon Bishop - 10/720,637

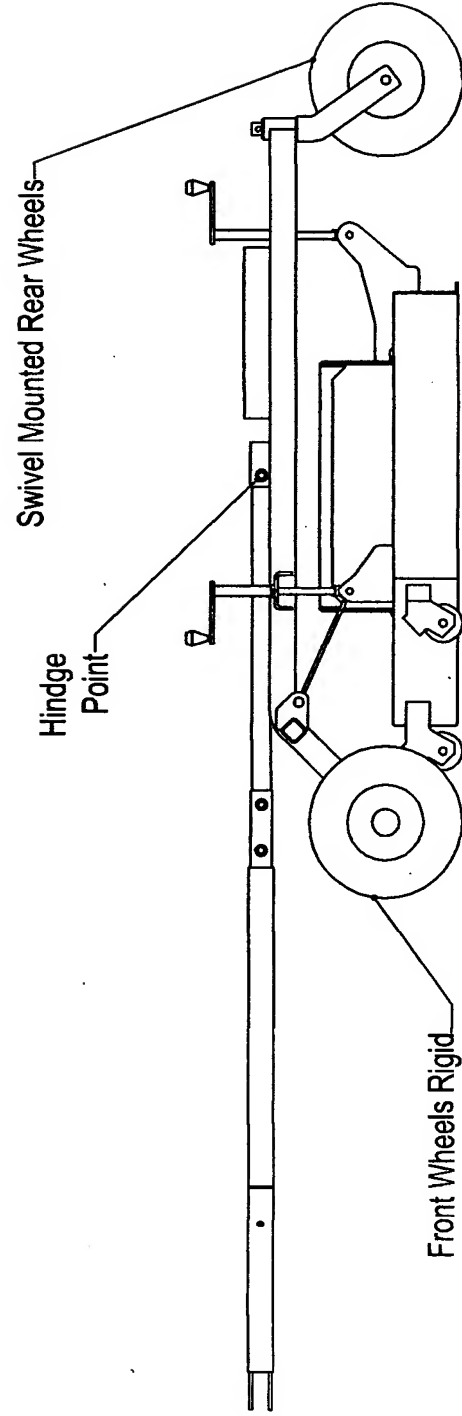
Page #1



Front Elevation View

Fig 1





Right Side Elevation View  
Fig 3

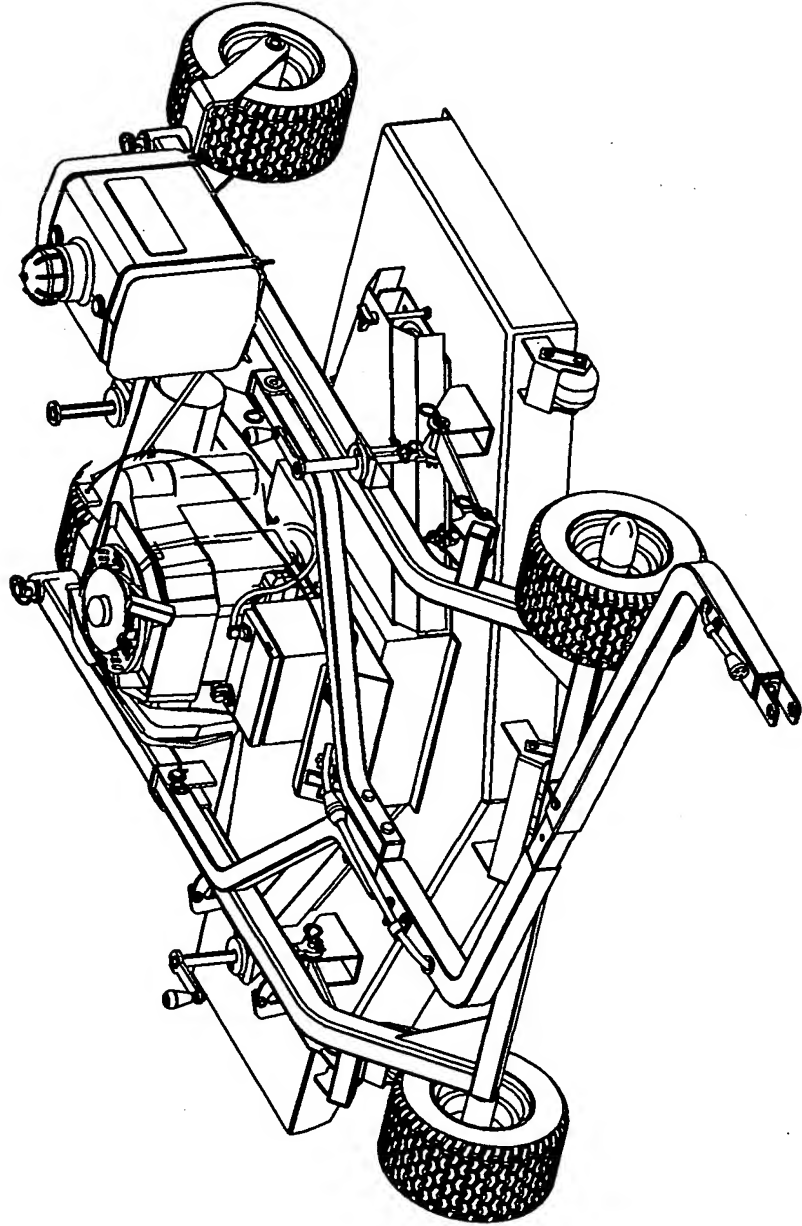


Fig 4